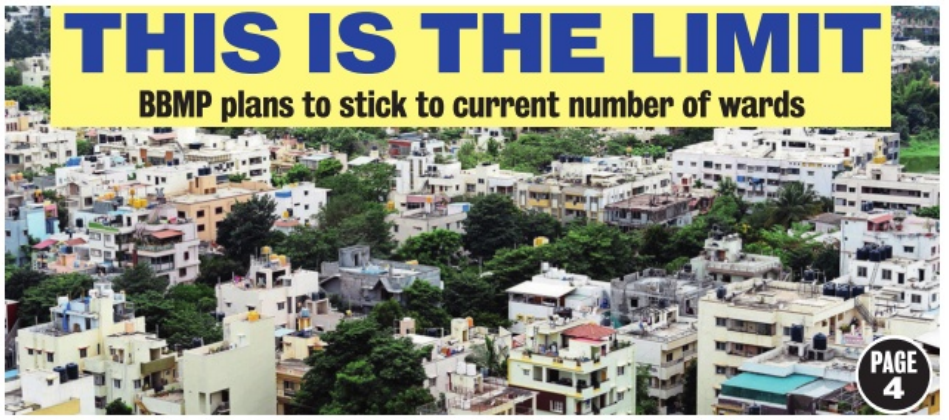
BENGALURU, TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 20 | Humidity 68% Mostly Cloudy Sensex 62,970 | Nifty 18,691 | Gold 58,520 | Silver 68,890 | Dollar 82.02 | Euro 89.51 | GBP 104.21

THIS IS THE LIMIT

BBMP plans to stick to current number of wards



PAGE 4

METRO ZIPS BY

No effect of free bus rides on Metro ridership as yet

PAGE 5

Nobody in BBMP's anti-tobacco cell has any clue when contact number on its notice board was tampered with or about tobacco products being sold at its head-office premises

HARD TO KICK THE HABIT

Raids conducted, fines collected: 'All measures taken' to curb menace

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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It is not clear why the anti-tobacco cell of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) hits the headlines frequently for the wrong reasons. A few years ago, the anti-tobacco cell was on the verge of closure due to the lack of funds. Now, it has become pretty evident that people working with anti-tobacco cells are getting inattentive towards their responsibilities.

Here is exhibit A to substantiate our claim: The notice board put up on the stairs of the first floor of the annex building on BBMP Head Office premises. This notice board was put up on the stairs to inform the public and BBMP employees on the ban on smoking and using tobacco products on the BBMP premises. The purpose of putting up the notice board was to facilitate health-conscious public or BBMP employees to inform the District Tobacco Control Programme Officer if they come across violation of ban on smoking and usage of tobacco products. The notice board has the contact number of Hemanth, District Tobacco Control Programme Officer. The public have to contact Hemanth through the mobile phone number – 86189 54396.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

KAUSHIK JN

"We have created awareness among the employees working at the BBMP head office about the ban on usage and sale of tobacco products

– Anti-tobacco cell employee

Tracking AIDS

Anti-retroviral therapy helping keep HIV numbers in check, but self-testing will help more, say experts

| Melvin Mathew
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As compared to last year, there has been an increase of 2,000 in the number of HIV cases in the state. However, experts say HIV numbers are on the decline due to anit-retroviral therapy, but we are yet to meet the targets. Testing numbers for HIV too are yet to get back to pre-covid levels.

As per data shared by the Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society, Karnataka saw 11,256 cases in 2021-2022 and 13,382 cases in 2022-2023. The increase has been accounted to the rise in testing rates right after covid era. Number of tests conducted in 2019-20 was 25,82,946, which dipped to 16,34,419 in 2020-2021. While in 2019-2020, there were 16,306 HIV-positive cases, the numbers have been on the decline since 2017-2018, which had 19,743 cases.

In 2022-2023, Bengaluru Urban saw the highest number of cases(1,268), followed by Belagavi (1,252), 974 cases in BBMP limits, and 904 cases in Bagalkot.

Experts say that cases have been on the decline due to anti-retroviral therapy (ART). "Overall, from 2010, there has been a significant decline in HIV cases and deaths across the country. During covid time, people could not freely access ART and visit clinics. There was also a decline in HIV testing. ART has made all the difference for AIDS patients. When one is on ART, the viral load is undetectable; it does not transmit to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

'It's time to talk about children's issues'

Child rights panel demands facilitation of awareness on child rights among MLAs

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The Karnataka Child Rights Observatory (KCRO) appealed to Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker UT Khader to include child rights issues in the training for newly elected MLAs to create awareness among the legislators about children's issues.

KCRO convenor Dr Vasudeva Sharma NV wrote a letter to the Speaker urging him to facilitate discussion and awareness on child rights during the training for the newly elected MLAs.

"I am not alleging that MLAs are not aware of child rights. I am also not alleging that previous MLAs did nothing for the welfare of children. I am of the opinion that many issues pertaining to children will not come to the attention of lawmakers. Creating awareness during the training will enable the MLAs to discuss child rights issues during the Assembly session," said Dr Sharma.

There was a Karnataka State Legislators' Forum on Child Rights, but it has not functioned as per expectations for three years, he explained.

"I appeal to the Speaker to revive the Karnataka State Legislators' Forum on Child Rights because there were occasions where the Karnataka State Legislators' Forum on Child Rights took up many issues related to child rights," he added.

"Many issues pertaining to children will not come to the attention of lawmakers. Creating awareness during the training will enable MLAs to discuss child rights issues –Dr Vasudeva Sharma NV

He opined that revival of the Karnataka State Legislators' Forum on Child Rights and awareness among the legislators would facilitate the legislators not only understanding but also raising issues such as education, malnutrition, child labour, and child marriages in rural areas.

Ngasimha G Rao, Director of Child Rights Trust, said that the need of the hour is awareness among legislators about the problems of children.

"Elected representatives are considering the children as tomorrow's citizens, but the children are today's citizens. The awareness of child rights among the legislators would help them to understand children's problems and enable them to enact laws for the welfare of children," said Rao.

Meanwhile, Congress spokesperson Ramesh Babu said the training for newly elected legislators is meant to train them in legislative matters. "The training is meant to create awareness on how to behave in the Assembly and to know what the zero hour is and what the question hour is. I am of the opinion that it is the duty of the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and other social organisations working for child rights," added Babu.

However, Dr Vasudeva Sharma said that many social organisations or non-governmental organisations working for child rights have no resources to organise awareness programmes. "Most of the social organisations and NGOs have been playing an advocacy role," he further added.

Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights Chairman K Naganna Gowda has opined that newly elected legislators needed to have awareness of Acts related to child rights, including the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, and the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act. "We are conducting awareness programmes for village panchayat members next month," he informed.

BLR Pulse to assist you through KIA

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To improve passengers' experiences as they navigate their way through Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has launched a new app, christened BLR Pulse.

The personalised digital application will cater to passengers' various needs and will alleviate common pre-travel apprehensions like long security queues and waiting time. It will also help travellers navigate within terminal buildings and receive real-time information about airport services.

This digital travel buddy for the passengers has been developed in collaboration with GrayMatter Software Services and will help them take control of their journey at departures and arrivals by providing essential information. The application's interactive chatbot feature will enable a self-sufficient mode of finding answers to various questions, which will be further curated over time.

The personalised digital application will cater to passengers'various needs

It will also offer real-time updates on various passenger processing touchpoints, including entry gates, check-in counters, and security check areas, while delivering flight status updates directly to passengers' mobile or email inboxes. In addition, the 'WayFinder' feature allows passengers to find their way through the airport easily. Passengers can also book a transit hotel for their short-term stay or complete their last-minute flight check-ins.

According to BIAL officials, the idea behind launching the app is to help passengers plan their travel on the go, even before they reach the airport.

"Travelling through the airport will now be more seamless. We value our passengers' time and needs, and hence this app comes as a one-tap solution. Through BLR Pulse, we are connecting the physical and digital worlds to create a 'Phygital' environment that will provide passengers and visitors with a unique interactive experience," said Hari Marar, MD & CEO, BIAL.

The app will utilise indoor positioning, passenger flow data, travel document management, IoT, and data insights to integrate systems and services seamlessly. The app is built around a single-cart capability that enables a single payment for all purchases across varied categories, powered by a unified payment gateway. BIAL also plans to introduce several exciting features on the app over the coming days.

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2 THINGS TO DO

01 Jazz it up

The International Music and Arts Society is hosting a leading young virtuoso jazz composer, Sharik Hassan. Grab the chance to experience standard contemporary jazz with the artist's original compositions. Hassan has spent years getting trained and performing in Paris, Amsterdam, London, and his current base, New York.

Where: Bangalore International Centre
When: July 4; 7:30 pm

02 Act in play

Grab the chance to attend Vishwapatha Kala Sangama's new play, Paaka Kranthi, which is based on Kannada great novelist KP Poornachandra Tejaswi's novel. The novelist was a multi-faceted personality with many interests in photography, fishing, playing the sitar, farming, and cooking.

Where: Kalagrama Mallathahalli (behind Bangalore University)
When: Saturday, July 1; 7 pm

Drop green ideas in the box

City colleges set up eco-suggestion boxes for students to suggest sustainable ideas for campus

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From making their campus plastic-free to designing medicinal plant kits and installing waste treatment facilities on their premises, city colleges are leaving no stone unturned to reduce their carbon footprint.

Eco-suggestion boxes are their latest ploy to achieve the net zero target.

A handful of colleges in Bengaluru have come up with eco-suggestion boxes on their campuses for students to propose ideas that can improve the eco-sustainability aspect of institutes.

"We came up with an eco-suggestion box on our campus a year ago to bring down the carbon footprint of the campus and encourage students to participate in solving environmental issues. Students can drop in their suggestions and also highlight wastage of any resources on the campus," said Dr Roopa Philip, a professor at Jyoti Nivas College.

"The box receives max suggestions around environment-related days. However, every time an idea proposed by a student is implemented, others get encouraged and come up with more suggestions

The college says that most green initiatives implemented on the campus over the last year are either inspired by suggestions dropped in the box or an idea directly executed.

"We get extremely pertinent and apt suggestions from the students. Whether it was about encouraging students and staff to use public transport or having rainwater harvesting and recycling units to reuse answer script sheets for new books, students have been playing an important role in improving the eco-sustainability of our campus. From labeling all the trees and plants on the campus to creating hand booklets of medicinal plants to be distributed to residents living in and around our campus, the suggestion box has been a source of some wonderful green and environment-friendly ideas," said Dr Priyadarshini Pillai, Botany Department head, Jyoti Nivas college.

Campuses say the suggestion boxes are opened once a month to analyse the proposals. "The box receives maximum suggestions around environment-related days such as Earth Day, Environment Day, and Biodiversity Day. However, every time an idea proposed by a student is implemented, others get encouraged and come up with more suggestions," said a representative of another city-based educational institute with an eco-suggestion box.

Colleges say suggestions from students are not only innovative, but this engagement helps cultivate environmental awareness among them.

"Although we do not have an eco-suggestion box on the campus, we take suggestions from students on green initiatives. For instance, not even a week ago, our students came up with the idea of a paper composting unit. They are the future generation with a lot of innovative ideas. Moreover, this also helps them learn about various environmental issues and probable solutions," Dr Rajani Kora, coordinator, Institutional Social Responsibility Cell, Mount Carmel College.

Say no to drugs, say it in textbooks

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From January 2022 to June 22, 2023, police have seized 6,261 kg of drugs across the city. According to a press statement of the police, 7,882 arrests related to drug peddling and consumption have been made since 2022.

According to the data by Bengaluru police, drugs worth Rs 57 crore have been seized in the city since last year.

The city police commissioner emphasised that the police will keep conducting raids in order to address Bengaluru's drug problem. On International Day Against Drug Abuse, the police also highlighted that many children are becoming a victim of drug abuse and they have caught several drug peddlers around educational institutes whose main target are school and college going students.

Based on tip-offs, the Bengaluru police have been conducting raids and have recently detained a large number of drug dealers. However, only arrests can't solve the problem, the police feel, so police commissioner B Dayananda said that school textbooks should have chapters that can explain and create awareness among children about the harmful effects of drug abuse.

"Efforts are being made to make school children aware about the ill effects of drug consumption on their lives and health. And we are also thinking about approaching the government that school textbooks should have content related to harmful effects of drugs," said the police.

On Monday, senior police officers visited 388 schools, 253 colleges and 51 vocational colleges in the city and created awareness among the students.

Sijo Sebastian, joint secretary of the Voice of Parents Organisation, Karnataka, said that it is a good step that police are taking the initiative to curb drug abuse among school children as it goes to the problem at its root.

"In recent years ,we are noticing that drug consumption cases among students are increasing at an alarming rate. It is the need of the hour that awareness is created among students from a small age and also a committee should be formed at school level including parents and teachers to tackle this issue," he said.

He added that creating awareness is an important but only one aspect of the crisis. "It is just one part of it, but it's good to do it before the child becomes addicted to the drugs. But also, some sort of monitoring by the police, teachers and parents is required," he added.

Squeezing of testicles is not 'attempt to murder': High Court

Squeezing another person's testicles during a fight cannot be termed 'attempt to murder', the High Court of Karnataka has said.

It differed with the Trial Court which had convicted a 38-year old man for 'causing grievous hurt' for such an incident. It also reduced the sentence from seven years imprisonment to three years.

The HC reasoned that the accused had no intention of murdering the victim and the injury was caused during a fight.

"There was a quarrel between the accused and complainant on the spot. During that quarrel, the accused chose to squeeze the testicles. Therefore, it cannot be said that the accused came with an intention or with preparation to commit murder. If at all he has prepared or attempted to commit murder, he could have brought some deadly weapons with him in order to commit murder," it said.

The HC said that the accused has caused grievous hurt to the victim. Though the injury may have caused the death of the victim it was not the intention of the accused.

"Though he has chosen the testicles which is the vital part of the body which may cause death and the injured was taken to the hospital, also undergone surgery and the testicles was removed which is a grievous hurt. Therefore, I am of the view, it cannot be said that the accused with an intention or preparation had attempted to commit murder.

The injury caused by the accused could be brought under Section 324 of IPC by causing grievous injury by squeezing the private part which is the vital part of the body," Justice K Natarajan said in his recent judgement.

The complaint by the victim Omkarappa stated that he and others were dancing in front of the 'Narasimhaswamy' procession during the village fair when the accused Parameshwarappa came there in a motorcycle and picked up a quarrel. During the fight that ensued, Parameshwarappa squeezed the testicles of Omkarappa causing grievous injury. After the police inquiry and trial, he was convicted and sentenced. **PTI**

Ward division: Really to happen?

BBMP likely to maintain its current number of wards; population may vary with revision

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With a new panel established to examine ward delimitation, the question arises whether the ward strength will increase or decrease. BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath states that 'as of now', the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is likely to maintain its current ward strength of 243. This comes as the panel contemplates reorganising ward boundaries, raising queries about potential changes in ward numbers.

Previously, the BBMP had 198 wards, but this number increased to 243 following a July 2022 notification by the BJP-led state government. However, the delimitation process and subsequent elections have been delayed, leaving the existing ward boundaries unchanged for the time being.

In response to a directive from the Karnataka High Court, the Urban Development Department formed a panel led by Nath in collaboration with the BDA Chairman, Bengaluru Urban District Deputy Commissioner, and BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue) recently. This panel is entrusted with conducting a fresh delimitation process, strictly adhering to prescribed guidelines and relevant provisions of the law. The High Court instructed the state government to undertake a new delimitation exercise within 12 weeks, following a plea that challenged the previous BJP government's decision to redraw ward boundaries.

Explaining the ongoing delimitation process on Monday, Nath said, "Based on the order, it appears that the total number of wards will remain at 243. However, as we revise ward boundaries, the population may fluctuate. We will utilise the 2011 census data for delimitation since the 2021 census has not yet commenced. Additionally, the voter list will be considered for finalising ward distribution."

BBMP had 198 wards, but this number increased to 243 following a July 2022 notification

> **We will follow the orders of the Revenue Department and invoke the act to remove trespasses on lakes and rajakaluves if necessary**
>
> –Tushar Giri Nath, BBMP

Controversy surrounding ward names also emerged with the ward delimitation exercise. During the previous exercise, controversies arose when 40 ward names were changed without sufficient public consultation. The move faced significant criticism, with over 2,000 objections out of a total of 3,833 specifically addressing the name changes. Concerns were raised regarding the previous BJP government's incorporation of the names of its leaders into ward names. With the Congress government now in power, speculation is rife about potential name changes. When asked, Nath stated that objections would be considered after issuing a fresh notification.

Invoking the Disaster Management Act

Meanwhile, the BBMP plans to invoke the Disaster Management Act to remove encroachments.

Nath said, "We will follow the orders of the Revenue Department and invoke the act to remove encroachments on lakes and rajakaluves if necessary. We will act according to the orders issued by the respective tahsildars of the revenue departments for encroachment removal. During periods of heavy rainfall, our focus will be on preventing flooding and ensuring unobstructed water flow in rajakaluves."

Encroachments obstructing the flow will be eliminated under the authority of the Disaster Management Act. Compensation will be provided as stipulated by the act. The process entails invoking the act, issuing a notification regarding the flooding situation, and subsequently requisitioning assistance from the revenue department, he added.

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Blocked path
Vidyaranyapura

A road roller has been parked in a narrow lane in Shree Ganesha Layout, 8th Main, Vidyaranyapura, for over two and a half months, resulting in significant difficulties for vehicle movement.

Mismanaged
Kasturinagar

The BBMP turned a park in Kasturinagar into a makeshift slum to accommodate contract workers. This unauthorised use of the park has resulted in a grave issue that requires immediate resolution.

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಟೌನ್, ಮರಳುಬಾಗಿಲು, ನಂ. 218 ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸವಾಗಿರುವ ಲೇಟ್ ರಾಮಯ್ಯ ನವರ ಮಗನಾದ ಸುಮಾರು 50 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್.ಆರ್.ಹಿಳ್ಳಪ್ಪ ರವರು ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿಯವರು ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಶಿಡ್ಲಘಟ್ಟ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಜಂಗಮಕೋಟೆ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಮಳ್ಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ.208/3 ರ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಒಟ್ಟು 39 ಗುಂಟೆ ಇದ್ದು, ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ 1 ಗುಂಟೆ (ಅ) ವಿಠಾಬು ಜಾಗವನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಒಟ್ಟು 38 ಗುಂಟೆ ಜಮೀನನ್ನು ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ.ಉಮಾಶಂಕರ್ ಬಿನ್ ಎಂ.ಮಾರಪ್ಪ ರವರಿಂದ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ವಿರೀದಿಸಲು/ಕ್ರಯಕ್ಕೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಯಾವುದೇ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳು, ಕಂಪನಿ, ಹಣಕಾಸು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು / ಸಂಘಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ಯಾರಿಗಾದರು ಕೆಳಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಸ್ವತ್ತಿನ ಮೇಲೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ಲೇಂ, ಹಕ್ಕು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಾದ 7 ದಿನಗಳ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಕೆಳ ಸಹಿದಾರರಿಗೆ ಲಿಖಿತ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು, ತಪ್ಪಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ಲೇಂಗಳು ಇಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್‌ನ ವಿವರ

ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಶಿಡ್ಲಘಟ್ಟ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಜಂಗಮಕೋಟೆ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಮಳ್ಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ. 208/3 ರ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಒಟ್ಟು 39 ಗುಂಟೆ ಇದ್ದು, ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ 1 ಗುಂಟೆ (ಅ) ವಿಠಾಬು ಜಾಗವನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಒಟ್ಟು 38 ಗುಂಟೆ ಜಮೀನಿಗೆ ಚೆಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ: ಪೂರ್ವಕ್ಕೆ: ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ.208/4, ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ: ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ. 208/2, ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ: ಎಂ.ನಾರಾಯಣಸ್ವಾಮಿ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ: ರಸ್ತೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ.ಆರ್.ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್, ವಕೀಲರು
2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಕುಂಬೇಶ್ವರ ಕಾಂಪ್ಲೆಕ್ಸ್,
ಸೂಲಿಬೆಲೆ ರಸ್ತೆ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಟೌನ್,
ಫೋನ್ ನಂ.: 8762550147.

'Keep this area free of trash, please'

Abhijeet Kabad
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Garbage collection is a constant issue in the city. Garbage accumulating at Chikka Banaswadi, 4th Cross, was cleared after five days after persistent calls to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) by the residents of the area.

Tina, a resident, said, "This past week, despite raising tickets for five days continuously, the garbage was not cleared. It was finally cleared on Thursday. On speaking to one of the garbage collectors, I found that these contractors were not being paid."

Upon further inquiry with the garbage picking staff, it was found that the BBMP has not been paying these collectors in the area for the past 7-8 months. The BBMP opined that because of the rains, they were not getting the contractors.

All kind of waste is dumped at Chikka Banaswadi, 4th Cross

"It is a vicious cycle, which is impacting the residents. Despite paying so much in taxes, the government not doing its duty is annoying. They might blame the rains or the contractors, but the garbage is being collected after we make noise for 3–4 days continuously," she explained.

Other residents added that before the elections, the collection was going on properly. The BBMP lorry would collect on a regular basis.

"Once the elections were complete, nobody bothered to collect them on time. The garbage started accumulating, and we could not open the doors and pass by the area due to the stink," said Manish, another resident.

One person in the area also got operated for scoliosis and lives near the garbage disposal. After this incident, the residents started collecting numbers on who to contact. They wrote a letter, asking to shift the garbage box to another point.

"When asked, they said that the other side of the border belongs to a MLA. So they are fighting over border issues. Almost 20 residents had signed this letter, along with their phone numbers. Even after I posted this, nobody turned up. But currently, it is being cleared, but we are unsure how long it will continue. The garbage vans come, but people complain that they do not have time to dump them. Hence, the residents dump it in the box," he explained.

Apart from kitchen waste and dry waste, people dump all kind of waste. People from mutton shops and barber shops throw waste at night since nobody is present. The dogs spread the waste in the morning all over, making it unbearable for the residents, he informed.

"Even the small garbage vans don't come. It is a 30 ft road, but stink still gets into the houses, and during the rains it gets worse," he added.

BBMP to put tree census back on GKVK's table

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is currently in discussions to entrust the long-awaited tree census of Bengaluru to the Gandhi Krishi Vigyana Kendra (GKVK). Following years of deliberation, sources within the BBMP reveal that the government is nearing a decision, with the research institute being the most likely candidate to conduct the census.

"While the final approval is pending and the two parties have yet to reach a formal agreement, talks have been ongoing regarding the census, and it is highly probable that the responsibility will be handed over to GKVK. The institute submitted a revised detailed project report last year stating it will require Rs 7 crore for the task. This aspect is yet to be finalised and negotiations are expected to happen soon. The census is one of it's kind across the country and we would like to carry it out with the required precision and guidance of a research institute," said a senior official from BBMP. The official also added that the government has suggested BBMP to explore the possibility of soliciting new tenders for the project.

The tree census issue dates back to August 2019 when the Karnataka High Court directed the civic agency to conduct the survey in accordance with the provisions of the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act, 1976.

Post the order, BBMP reached out to the Institute of Wood Science and Technology and then to GKVK for the project. However, despite months of deliberations, these proposals failed to materialise. The BBMP then attempted to conduct the census independently, seeking support from the tree authority and the Karnataka Forest Department. Unfortunately, this effort also proved futile.

Following years of deliberation, govt may be nearing a decision and agri research institute is frontrunner among all candidates

Nevertheless, the BBMP has carried out two pilot projects to assess the survey's cost and the effectiveness of the developed application. The first pilot, in association with a Pune-based private company, mapped 5,000 trees in Malleshwaram. The second pilot, conducted in the AECS layout area of Mahadevpura, was led by graduate students from Jyoti Nivas College in collaboration with The People's Corp, a city-based NGO.

"The tree census establishes a baseline and provides clarity on the feasibility of falling tree development projects. The seriousness of the census has always been absent," criticized Dattatreya Devare,trustee Bangalore Environment Trust.

Shakti or not, Metro is zipping along fine

While free BMTC buses (non-AC buses) affect autos and cabs, Namma Metro is in high demand

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Since February, metro has witnessed a surge in footfall

While the Shakti scheme, provides free travel for women in BMTC non-AC buses, the ridership of autos and cabs reduces, while the city's metro system remains unaffected. In fact, the Bengaluru Metro is experiencing a steady increase in ridership month after month.

Since February, the metro has witnessed a surge in footfall, with February recording a ridership of 1.46 crore, generating revenue of Rs 34.90 crore. In March, ridership increased to 1.60 crore, resulting in revenue of Rs 38.36 crore. The trend continued in April, with ridership rising to 1.71 crore, and revenue reaching Rs 41.40 crore. In May, the metro served a total of 1.74 crore commuters, generating revenue of Rs 43.45 crore. This indicates a significant increase of 28 lakh passengers in May compared to February.

The expansion of the metro network is one of the main reasons behind this surge in ridership. Currently, the Namma Metro operates 69.66 km of track. Notably, officials believe that footfall will continue to rise as new lines are set to open this year. A total of 26.40 km of additional lines will be added, including the Kengeri line extension to Challaghatta (1.314 km), the RV road Bommasandra line (19.15 km), and the Nagasandra line extension to Madavara (3 km). Presently, an average of 5.7 lakh passengers utilise the Metro trains daily, but officials expect this number to increase to an average of 8 lakh commuters per day.

An official highlighted that besides the line extensions, the increasing number of people returning to offices has also contributed to the rise in Metro ridership. Officials are delighted that the metro has finally overcome the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, the metro carried around 4 lakh riders daily, which dropped to 2 lakhs during the pandemic years. Looking at operational revenue, the company earned Rs 33.39 crore in December 2019, and the revenue reached Rs 33.54 crore in February 2020.

Anjum Parwez, the Managing Director of BMRCL, stated, "As of now, the viaduct and track laying work has been completed, and signalling work is currently in progress at the missing link of KR Puram to Byappanahalli. The trial run may commence soon, starting from the end. If we receive inspection approval by then, operations may begin in August. Our plan is to connect both missing links simultaneously, namely KR Puram to Byappanahalli and Kengeri to Challaghatta."

This implies that the trains on the purple line will run from Whitefield to Challaghatta, making it the longest operational train route from August. Meanwhile, the metro fares have not been increased recently, although officials claim that it may be considered in the future.

In a significant boost to the second phase of Metro works, REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Union Ministry of Power, has approved financial assistance of Rs. 3,045 crores to the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) for the establishment and development of metro lines under Phase-II of the Bangalore Metro project. This decision was made at the board meeting of REC held in Bengaluru on June 24, 2023, where the board approved the proposal of BMRCL.

> **"As of now, the viaduct and track laying work has been completed, and signalling work is currently in progress**
> –Anjum Parwez, BMRCL MD

Phase II of Namma Metro includes the extension of the existing two corridors of Phase-I, namely the East-West Corridor and North-South Corridor, as well as the addition of two new lines: one from R.V. Road to Bommasandra and another from Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara. These lines will pass through some of the city's busiest and most congested areas. The completion of Phase II (72.09 km) will enhance connectivity and alleviate traffic in the densely populated city of Bengaluru. With the inclusion of Phase II, the combined network of Namma Metro will reach a total line length of 114.39 km, serving 101 stations.

IN BRIEF

BMTC feeder bus timings have left students out

Students of Mount Carmel College (MCC) are unable to use the feeder bus services provided by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) due to a change in the timings of the services provided. Students have urged the authorities to ensure the timings are reverted so they can use the service effectively.

A 2nd year PUC student said, "The bus would arrive at 3 pm but it now arrives at 4 pm. This does not align with the dispersed timings of the college, forcing students to rely on autos to reach the metro station." She added that when they questioned the conductor he did not provide an explanation but instead urged them to complain to the responsible authorities.

BMTC officials stated stopping the feeder bus services on the route cited a lack of adequate patronage. Introduced on November 2, 2022, allowed metro passengers who get off at the Cubbon Park station to reach nearby destinations such as Cunningham Road, Miller Tank Bund Road, Thimmaiah Road, Palace Road, Ali Asker Road, and St Anne's School in Vasant Nagar without relying on autos or other modes of transport for last mile connectivity. The corporation had also introduced two 31-seater MINI buses to make an average of 40 trips in a day after the frequency of 15-20 minutes. The route length measures 5.5 km and has nine stops. Unfortunately, this service resulted in revenue loss as there were very few takers, despite providing enough publicity regarding the service.

On this another student added "If three students together opt to reach the metro together in the auto, it is affordable but otherwise, it gets very expensive. It costs Rs 15 if we go by the feeder bus. If the BMTC continued to provide the services at designated hours aligning with the college timings in the morning and evening, it would be of much help."

— **Rachana Ramesh**

Bakrid shopping: Buyers, sellers haggle to seal deal

Goat, sheep prices have almost doubled this year, resulting in more heated negotiations

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In the lead-up to this year's Eid-ul-Adha, several prominent sheep-selling areas in the city, including Chamarajpet, HBR Layout, and Tannery Road Circle, are witnessing a significant surge in sheep prices, due to big demand. However, buyers are facing challenges due to their lack of awareness regarding the price hike, resulting in difficulties during negotiations.

Over the weekend, Chamarajpet Maidan experienced a substantial influx of people in search of sheep, while the market near the BDA complex in HBR Layout bustled with a diverse variety of sheep and goats. Chamarajpet Maidan offers breeds such as Sirohi, Sojat, Ajmera, and the crowd-favourite Bannur breed from Rajasthan, available for sale across different locations.

Buyers who bought a pair of goats for Rs 30,000 last year now find themselves confronted with double the prices, reaching Rs 60,000 per pair this year. The prices of sheep range between Rs 15,000 and up to Rs 2 lakh, depending on the breeds. The sharp increase in prices is significantly impacting buyers' budgets. However, sellers have reported that people are hesitant to purchase at the asking price and are bargaining for considerably lower prices.

Mohammed Tanzeem from Hasnain Farms, who operates a stall at the HBR Layout market, expressed his concerns, "Last year, we witnessed a substantial number of sales as everything was normalising after the covid pandemic. People were excited and bought many goats or sheep, resulting in excellent sales.

Over the weekend, Chamarajpet Maidan has seen a flurry of people looking to get affordable sheep/goat

"The most favoured sheep are the Ameengadh, ranging between Rs 25,000-Rs 1 lakh depending on size, and Bannur, with prices going up to Rs 45,000

–Mohammed Tanzee, Hasnain Farms

However, this year, purchasers are demanding a 60-70% discount from the original price. People are reluctant to spend more on sheep, and many are not interested in purchasing the fancy breeds that are typically popular. The most favoured selling sheep are the Ameengadh, ranging between Rs 25,000 and Rs 1 lakh depending on their size, and Bannur, with prices between Rs 35,000 and Rs 45,000. However, people are opting for lower-priced goats or bargaining to reduce costs this year. As a result, we have adjusted our prices to ensure we at least recover our costs."

Another seller from Chamarajpet, said, they saw significant crowd at Chamarajpet Maidan market. "We have observed that the demand for goats and sheep is high, but we are falling short in terms of quantity. While many sellers focus on attracting buyers with fancy breeds, buyers are primarily interested in the native goat breed, which is priced lower, starting from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000. Consequently, the quantity of such breeds is lower than the demand."

Some sellers who have set up small stalls near Jayamahal disclosed that rising production costs, transportation expenses, and increased overheads for animal breeders and traders have all contributed to the higher prices.

Saqlain Ahmed, a resident of HSR Layout, shared his experience, stating, "In comparison to last year, the prices have definitely gone up. The goats that we were getting for 25,000 a pair last year are now priced at Rs 40,000. I used to buy two pairs of goats every year between 40,000-50,000, but this time I had to pay more. However, with a lot of bargaining, I managed to get them at a better price."

The sellers remain hopeful for increased sales on Tuesday and Wednesday, as it is traditionally a time when many people come to buy sheep and goats in the two days leading up to the festival.

Suspecting affair, man stabs wife

A rowdy sheeter stabbed his wife in on her private parts and abdomen in front of their children, over suspicion of an extra marital affair.

The accused has been identified as Dayanand, a resident of Neelasandra. The accused is said to have come home drunk on Sunday night and started a ruckus saying that his wife Priyanka was talking to someone on the phone. He also accused her of having an illicit relationship with someone at her workplace.

Later, he stabbed her on the thigh and private parts with a knife. When Priyanka started screaming, locals came to her rescue and the accused fled the scene. The locals immediately called 112 and the police admitted her to the hospital.

The couple has been married for a few years now and has two children. The accused allegedly used to come drunk every night and start the fights. The accused was also released from jail only three days ago in a murder case. **–BMB**

Accused lands in B'luru, right into police net

A man accused in an attempt-to-murder case, who had escaped to Nepal, was arrested as he was entering Bengaluru. When the accused, Nishant Dugar, arrived in Bengaluru from Kathmandu, the staff of Kempegowda International Airport informed the RT Nagar police station. .On May 9, the chairman of Vaishnavi Builders Darshan was attacked by businessman Dugar. A case of attempt to murder was registered in RT Nagar station. Vedant had flown to Mumbai from Bengaluru on May 11 when the police were probing the case. Later, after finishing his company meeting in Mumbai, he fled to Nepal. **–BMB**

₹60K cr needed annually to implement promises'

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said a total of Rs 59,000 crore to Rs 60,000 crore is required annually, for the implementation of Congress' five poll 'guarantees'.

He said, the fresh budget of the new Congress government, which he will be presenting on July 7, is likely to be of the size Rs 3,35,000 crore.

The Chief Minister, who also holds the finance portfolio, was speaking after inaugurating the training camp organised for the newly elected MLAs of the 16th Legislative Assembly.

"The first budget after independence was twenty one crore three lakh rupees, today it is about three lakh nine thousand crore rupees. I will be presenting a new budget on July 7 it may be (of the size) three lakh thirty to thirty five thousand crore rupees," Siddaramaiah said.

Addressing the newly elected legislators, he said, "the present budget is around three lakh nine thousand eight hundred and ninety six crore rupees, as I'm implementing five guarantees, I will have to provide rupees forty thousand crore for it, for the remaining period. A total of fifty nine thousand to sixty thousand crore rupees is required for five guarantees."

Noting that the previous BJP government had presented a budget in February by taking a vote on account for four months, the CM said, the budget he will be presenting on July 7 will come into force from August 1.

Urging the legislators to try to learn and understand budgets, he also asked them to learn about taxation, stating the rich should be taxed, not the poor.

The five guarantees are: up to 200 units of free power to all households (Gruha Jyoti), Rs 2,000 monthly assis-

People queue up before a Bangalore One centre to register for the Gruha Jyoti scheme

tance to the woman head of every family (Gruha Lakshmi), 10 kg of free rice to every member of a BPL household (Anna Bhagya), Rs 3,000 every month for unemployed graduates and Rs 1,500 for unemployed diploma holders, both in the age group of 18-25 (YuvaNidhi), and free travel for women in public transport buses (Shakti). While the government has already launched the scheme which will provide free travel for women in public transport buses, the other four schemes are in various stages of implementation, and the timeline has already been fixed for their rollout.

Speaker of the Assembly UT Khader, Chairman of Legislative Council Basavaraja Horatti, Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan, Assembly Secretary M K Vishalakshi were present at the inaugural of the training.

The Legislature Session is scheduled from July 3 to 14. Suggesting that MLAs and MPs should understand the "meaning" of budget, the CM said, "in the 12th century, 'Kayakayogi' Basavanna spoke about budget. 'Kayaka' and 'Dasoha' are the key factors of the budget. Kayaka means production, Dasoha means sharing."

He explained that the value of the budget is just understanding where the production is and to whom we distribute it in the society.

The Assembly is the temple of democracy, Siddaramaiah said, as he called upon legislators to raise people's problems effectively in the Lower House and develop a mindset to seek solutions. Those who do not read and understand the Constitution cannot become good legislators and parliamentarians, he said, "So read the Constitution and understand its basic principles and objectives.""We made the rules of the House ourselves. He said that if you read and understand it properly, people's problems can be brought before the house in a proper manner," he said. **–PTI**

HEALTH TIP: Cashew nuts, almonds, whole grains, legumes, seeds, and dairy products are some of the rich sources of magnesium, which helps lower blood pressure

Cow's milk contains lots of muscle-boosting protein, plus calcium, which are both vital for building strong bones and teeth

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JAB TO FIGHT CANCER

Tracking advancement in development of vaccines that can shrink tumours, stop cancer from coming back

The next big advance in cancer treatment could be a vaccine.

After decades of limited success, scientists say research has reached a turning point, with many predicting more vaccines will be out in five years.

These aren't traditional vaccines that prevent disease, but shots to shrink tumours and stop cancer from coming back. Targets for these experimental treatments include breast and lung cancer, with gains reported this year for deadly skin cancer melanoma and pancreatic cancer.

"We're getting something to work. Now we need to get it to work better," said Dr James Gulley, who helps lead a center at the National Cancer Institute that develops immune therapies, including cancer treatment vaccines.

More than ever, scientists understand how cancer hides from the body's immune system. Cancer vaccines, like other immunotherapies, boost the immune system to find and kill cancer cells. And some new ones use mRNA, which was developed for cancer but first used for Covid-19 vaccines.

For a vaccine to work, it needs to teach the immune system's T cells to recognise cancer as dangerous, said Dr Nora Disis of UW Medicine's Cancer Vaccine Institute in Seattle. Once trained, T cells can travel anywhere in the body to hunt down danger.

"If you saw an activated T cell, it almost has feet," she said. "You can see it crawling through the blood vessel to get out into the tissues."

Patient volunteers are crucial to the research

Kathleen Jade, 50, learned she had breast cancer in late February, just weeks before she and her husband were to depart Seattle for an around-the-world adventure. Instead of sailing their 46-foot boat, Shadowfax, through the Great Lakes toward the St. Lawrence Seaway, she was sitting on a hospital bed awaiting her third dose of an experimental vaccine. She's getting the vaccine to see if it will shrink her tumour before surgery.

"Even if that chance is a little bit, I felt like it's worth it," said Jade, who is also getting standard treatment.

Progress on treatment vaccines has been challenging. The first, Provenge, was approved in the US in 2010 to treat prostate cancer that had spread. It requires processing a patient's own immune cells in a lab and giving them back through IV. There are also treatment vaccines for early bladder cancer and advanced melanoma.

Early cancer vaccine research faltered as cancer outwitted and outlasted patients' weak immune systems, said Olja Finn, a vaccine researcher at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

"All of these trials that failed allowed us to learn so much," Finn said.

As a result, she's now focused on patients with earlier disease since the experimental vaccines didn't help with more advanced patients. Her group is planning a vaccine study in women with a low-risk, noninvasive breast cancer called ductal carcinoma in situ.

More vaccines that prevent cancer may be ahead too. Decades-old hepatitis B vaccines prevent liver cancer and HPV vaccines, introduced in 2006, prevent cervical cancer.

In Philadelphia, Dr. Susan Domchek, director of the Basser Centre at Penn Medicine, is recruiting 28 healthy people with BRCA mutations for a vaccine test. Those mutations increase the risk of breast and ovarian cancer. The idea is to kill very early abnormal cells, before they cause problems. She likens it to periodically weeding a garden or erasing a whiteboard.

Others are developing vaccines to prevent cancer in people with precancerous lung nodules and other inherited conditions that raise cancer risk.

"Vaccines are probably the next big thing" in the quest to reduce cancer deaths, said Dr Steve Lipkin, a medical geneticist at New York's Weill Cornell Medicine, who is leading one effort funded by the National Cancer Institute. "We're dedicating our lives to that."

People with the inherited condition Lynch syndrome have a 60% to 80% lifetime risk of developing cancer. Recruiting them for cancer vaccine trials has been remarkably easy, said Dr Eduardo Vilar-Sanchez of MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, who is leading two government-funded studies on vaccines for Lynch-related cancers.

"Patients are jumping on this in a surprising and positive way," he said.

Drugmakers Moderna and Merck are jointly developing a personalised mRNA vaccine for patients with melanoma, with a large study to begin this year. The vaccines are customised to each patient, based on the numerous mutations in their cancer tissue. A vaccine personalized in this way can train the immune system to hunt for the cancer's mutation fingerprint and kill those cells.

But such vaccines will be expensive

"You basically have to make every vaccine from scratch. If this wasn't personalized, the vaccine could probably be made for pennies, just like the Covid vaccine," said Dr Patrick Ott of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

The vaccines under development at UW Medicine are designed to work for many patients, not just a single patient. Tests are underway in early and advanced breast cancer, lung cancer and ovarian cancer. Some results may come as soon as next year.

Todd Pieper, 56, from suburban Seattle, is participating in testing for a vaccine intended to shrink lung cancer tumors. His cancer spread to his brain, but he's hoping to live long enough to see his daughter graduate from nursing school next year.

"I have nothing to lose and everything to gain, either for me or for other people down the road," Pieper said of his decision to volunteer.

One of the first to receive the ovarian cancer vaccine in a safety study 11 years ago was Jamie Crase of nearby Mercer Island. Diagnosed with advanced ovarian cancer when she was 34, Crase thought she would die young and had made a will that bequeathed a favourite necklace to her best friend. Now 50, she has no sign of cancer and she still wears the necklace.

She doesn't know for sure if the vaccine helped, "But I'm still here." **—AP**

All you need to know about...

Thalassaemia

What is it?
In thalassaemia there's an abnormality of haemoglobin, the red pigment in red blood cells, which carries oxygen round the body to all its organs and tissues.
With too little or no haemoglobin, sufferers can be anaemic.

What are the symptoms?
Thalassaemia shows up from a few months after birth and the most common problems are:
Anaemia, severe tiredness, weakness, shortness of breath, pounding, fluttering or irregular heartbeats (palpitations) and pale skin caused by the lack of haemoglobin.
Too much iron in the body caused by the frequent blood transfusions needed to treat anaemia, causing problems with the heart, liver and hormones if it's left untreated.
Some people may also have delayed growth, weak and fragile bones (osteoporosis), and lower levels of fertility.

What causes it?
Thalassaemia is down to faulty genes affecting the production of haemoglobin.
A child can only be born with it if they inherit faulty genes from both parents.
If a child inherits a single gene they don't develop thalassaemia as the healthy gene from the other parent neutralises the faulty one.

How's it treated?
Blood transfusions – as often as once a month.
Chelation therapy – this removes the excess iron from the body that builds up naturally or as a result of having frequent blood transfusions.
Staying healthy with a good diet, doing regular exercise and not smoking or drinking too much. The only possible cure for thalassaemia is a stem cell or bone marrow transplant, but it's risky and won't often be attempted.

Dr Miriam Stoppard, Daily Mirror

India prepare for Kuwait challenge

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After two successive wins on the trot, India now face a tough opponent in Kuwait. Kuwait is the only other team to remain unbeaten in the group in the Bangabandhu SAFF championship 2023. With exemplary performance from Naorem Mahesh Singh in the previous game, India are now unbeaten in the last 12 games, with nine clean sheets. With coach Igor Stimac back after the match ban, it will add a much needed boost to the team's confidence.

Indian winger Lallianzuala Chhangte addressing the media about his role in the team said, "The coach instructed us to give our best and make the best when coming as a substitute. We did not play well in the first half, but in the second half we were aggressive. As a substitute, making a difference is important."

He added that his favourite wingers are Mahesh Singh and Liston Colaco.

Chhangte said that Didika Ralte is his football idol. "He can play with his left and right foot. He can score from a distance and is a humble guy."

"I've always tried to be positive on the ground. It's important to be optimistic because having negative thoughts will lead to not playing well. The team is gelling well on and off the pitch. We have been able to apply what we are doing on the training pitch," he said.

Having kept a clean sheet for the last nine games, Kuwait will pose a tough task. Kuwait has scored in every game this year, except for the game against Qatar on January 7, 2023 Talking about their opponents Kuwait, he said, "We approach every game with the same mentality, to win. Even if the team has lower or higher rankings, the mentality is to win."

The match will be the fourth between the teams. Kuwait has registered two comprehensive wins of 6-1 and 9-1 and India managed to eke out a single win in the international friendly in 2004.

Kuwait Forward Al-Khalidi will pose a big threat to the defence of blue tigers. With both the teams already qualified for the semifinals, the match will decide the final table postion.

However, both the teams would be keen on maintaining their unbeaten run in the tournament. The match kicks off at 7:30 pm today in Kanteerva stadium.

Smoking zone... or not

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, some miscreant has modified the mobile number to 8618984300. The number five is modified as 8 and 9 as 0 and 6 as 0.

The irony is that the employees working with the anti-tobacco cell have to use the stairs to enter their office. Whether they like it or not, they have to glance at the notice board as it is put up on the stairs of the first floor. However, none of them, including the District Tobacco Control Programme Officer, bothered to notice the modification made to the mobile phone number. It seems they put up the notice board and have forgotten about its existence.

"We put up the notice board a few months ago. We did not notice the modification made to the mobile phone number. We will replace it," said an employee of the anti-tobacco cell.

She said the anti-tobacco cell has conducted five raids on those selling or using tobacco products at Raja Rajeshwari Nagar, Bommanahalli, and Kudlu Gate and collected Rs 2,600 towards penalty for violating the ban on sale and usage of tobacco products. She said the anti-tobacco cell has issued a notice to a person for violating the ban in Yeshwanthpur in May.

"We have created awareness among the employees working at the BBMP Head Office about the ban on usage and sale of tobacco products. We are yet to take measures to penalise those smoking on the BBMP Head Office premises," she said.

Meanwhile, BBMP Chief Health Officer Dr Bala Sundar said the BBMP was adjudged as the best municipality for implementing anti-tobacco norms by a well-known organisation. "I have already taken measures to prevent smoking and sale of tobacco products on the BBMP Head Office premises. I will form three teams to enforce the ban on sale of tobacco products and people smoking on the BBMP Head Office premises. I have information on the selling of tobacco products by tea vendors. I will look into the matter," said Dr Bala Sundar.

ART of keeping HIV in check

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

another person. People are living longer lives and reintegrated into society," said Dr Glory Alexander, Director of the Asha Foundation.

"As per the UNICEF Target, 95 per cent of people estimated to be HIV positive should know their status, 95 per cent of people who are aware of their status should be on ART, and 95 per cent of them should have an undetectable viral load. We are yet to achieve those targets. Self-testing for HIV should be adopted. Using adequate counselling through video or online, increasing self-testing could be beneficial. It's a screening test, and if it turns positive, the person has to report to the doctor for the other three tests. Self-testing will help increase the number of people getting tested. It's already a successful model in other SAARC countries," she added.

She further added that wider use of Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) could help prevent the spread of HIV infection.

There are 60 ART centres in the state, with over seven in Bengaluru alone that provide free anti-retroviral therapy, which involves medicines for HIV and counselling for HIV-positive patients.

NGOs working with children with HIV-positive cases say that there has been a decline among cases in children.

"Even in cases where both parents are infected, they can give birth to healthy children. With large-scale awareness, parents are protecting their offspring," said Subash, Vice President of DESIRE Society.

Bengaluru FC will go down as biggest turnarounds in ISL history: Head Coach

Bengaluru FC head coach Simon Grayson claimed that his side's journey from the bottom half of the table to the final during the Indian Super League (ISL) 2022-23 season will be remembered as one of the biggest turnarounds in the league's history.

Bengaluru FC endured a dismal start to the ISL 2022-23 campaign, recording just three wins from their first 13 games. A poor run of results saw them slip to the bottom half of the league standings in the first half of the season. The Blues, however, quickly turned things around with a 10-match winning streak and made it to the ISL final, where they went down to ATK Mohun Bagan on penalties.

"It's not something that you want to do every season; have a poor start and then a fantastic run. But it will go down as one of the best and biggest turnarounds in ISL history and probably a lot of other leagues as well if you look at where we were," Grayson said in an interview with Bengaluru FC.

Bengaluru FC were touted as one of the favourites for the ISL title before the start of the season as they beat Mumbai City FC to win the Durand Cup. With a strong squad on paper, Grayson side's had momentum in their favour, but things just didn't go their way. They struggled for consistency despite opening their campaign with a 1-0 win over NorthEast United FC.

"You hope that that (Durand Cup win) is going to be the start of a successful season and then the season comes along and things go slightly different. The players worked hard, in difficult conditions as well, because it's very hot and humid. But also when you put into the factor as well that we played three of the first four games away from home and five out the first seven, which is never easy. And there were a lot of factors that probably went against us in that difficult run. Prince (Ibara) wasn't available, Javi (Hernandez) missed the start of the season and things just didn't quite happen," Grayson said, as he reflected on his side's poor run of results. **ANI**

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I, Mahesh Praangi, S/o. Narasimha Rao, residing at Main Road, Kummaripalem, Kondapi Village & Post, Prakasam Dist 523270, Andhra Pradesh, camping at Bengaluru, have changed my name to MAHESH PRASINGU, vide Affidavit Dated: 26/06/2023, sworn before Notary, S.I.BALAGURU B'luru.

I Pratik S/O, Dhrub Kumar R/o Doddathuguru, Bengaluru have changed my name to Pratik Srivastav for all purposes.

I Veera Raja Lakshmi Kantha, R/o #301, Rathna Deepaka Lotus Apartment, 2nd Cross Harinagar, Konankunte, Bangalore-560108, have changed my name to Veeraraja Lakshmikanth Vide Affidavit Dt 23-06-2023 Sworn Before Notary G.R.Rajanna, Bangalore.

I, KRISHNAPPA ARAKERE TUMKUR residing at No.42, 3rd A Cross, 8th Main, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, T. Dasarahalli, Bangalore-560057 have changed my name to KRISHNAPPA ARKERE THIMMAIAH vide affidavit dated 21.06.2023 before notary V. Anjanappa, B.lore.

I, Lakshmi K Kukreja D/o Kishanlal W/o Naresh Bhagia, R/a No.263, 3rd Cross, KEB Layout, RMV 2nd Stage, Sanjay Nagar, B'luru- 560094 I have changed my name to 'Sony N. Bhagia' and I am henceforth be called as Smt Sony N. Bhagia.

I, 14847860W Hav Shivraj Singh of ASC Records (South) changed my Son's Name from Ankit Kumar to Ankit Baghel notary KV Mani, Bangalore.

I, Shaheda W/o Vazeer Ahamad R/o Wars 17 Azad Nagar , Sidlaghatta, Chikkaballapur-562105 have changed my name to Saheda

I Balaji Ashwathnarayana S/O, Ashwathnarayana R/o #284/1, Balaji Nilaya , C K Farm , Indranagar, Doddabidarikallu , Bengaluru 560073 have changed my name to Balaji Ashwathnarayana Nelagadaranahalli

I Vineet Uday Shetty R/a N1023, Prestige Sunrise park, Norwood, Electronic City Phase-I, Bluru-560100, have changed my name to Vineet Udayshankar Shetty, vide affidavit dt 24.06.2023, before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar

I Murtaza Maimoon R/o 03, Sakina Villa, 5th Cross, Vinay aka Nagar J P Nagar 5th Phase, B'luru 560078 have changed my minor son name from Mohammed to Mohammed Maimoon for all purposes

I, CHANDA PASHA residing at No.22, 3rd Cross, Gundappa Road, Nagashettihalli, Bangalore-560094 have changed my name to CHAND PASHA vide affidavit dated 21.06.2023 before notary V. Anjanappa, B.lore.

I, Vikresh Kumar Gyanani R/o B3 701, Mahaveer Ranches, Hosa Road, Bangalore have changed my minor son's name from Darshit Gyanani to Darsh Gyanani for all purposes.

I, Dhanashree Biradarpatil R/O #PTB 604 Golden Blossom, Kadugodi Plantation Bengaluru-560067 have changed my son's name from Atharv to Atharv Anand Biradarpatil

I Stuti Manish W/O, Manish Kumar R/o A1, First Floor, #1, Sai Nivas, Anjanadari Layout, Hormavu-Ramapuram Road, K.Channasandra, Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name to Stuti Sudhersanan Unni for all purposes

WE, Ami Kunal Sharma & Kunal Narendra Sharma parents of Om Sharma, our son (minor) with Passport#S4843697 have changed his name to Om Kunal Sharma

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EPFO extends deadline
Retirement fund body EPFO has extended the deadline for filing applications to opt for a higher pension till July 11

First thing PM should do is sack Manipur CM: Kharge

'No amount of propaganda by BJP-led govt can cover up its abject failure'

#NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on the Manipur violence and said the first thing he should do is sack Chief Minister N Biren Singh if he is really concerned about the state.

No amount of "propaganda" by the BJP-led government can cover up its "abject failure" in handling the Manipur situation, Kharge said.

He said reports indicate that Union Home Minister Amit Shah has finally spoken to Modi on the situation in the north-eastern state and added, "For the last 55 days, Modiji did not say a word on Manipur. Every Indian is waiting for him to speak."

"If Modiji is really concerned about Manipur, then the first thing he should do is sack his chief minister," Kharge said on Twitter.

More than 100 people have so far lost their lives in the ethnic violence between the Meitei and Kuki communities in Manipur.

Kharge said, "No amount of propaganda by the BJP and Modi government can cover up their abject failures in dealing with (the) Manipur violence."

The Congress chief also demanded that the government confiscate all stolen weapons in the northeastern state.

Suggesting several steps to restore peace in Manipur, Kharge said the government should start talking to all the parties and find a common political path.

"End the blockade with the help of security forces. Ensure the availability of essential commodities by opening and keeping the national highways safe.

"A package of relief, rehabilitation and livelihood for the affected people should be prepared without delay. The announced relief package is grossly inadequate," he said.

Bihar Nagrik Adhikar Manch activists hold a candlelight vigil for peace and harmony in Manipur, at Budhha Smriti Park, in Patna on Sunday

State of anguish

Meanwhile, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh met the members of the Manipur Tribals' Forum, who discussed the situation in their home state with the veteran leader and handed over a memorandum to him. "Today evening I met with the Manipur Tribals' Forum, Delhi who poured out their pain and anguish at the state of the affairs in Manipur over the past 55 days. I shared our solidarity with them and assured them of all possible support from the Congress party to ensure return of peace and normalcy in Manipur," Ramesh said.

The Manipur Tribals' Forum members presented a memorandum to him, the Congress leader said while sharing it on Twitter.

"Besides the points made in it, they stressed that the incumbent CM Biren Singh should be removed immediately for any progress to happen towards dialogue and reconciliation.

"They also provided a detailed day-to-day account of what has happened in Manipur since the Union Home Minister made the appeal for 15 days of peace," Ramesh said.

Singh briefed Shah here on Sunday on the "evolving situation" in Manipur and said the state and central governments have been able to control the violence to a "great extent".

Modi chaired a meeting on the situation in Manipur with senior cabinet colleagues and officials on Monday after returning from his State visits to the United States and Egypt. **-PTI**

Monsoon covers 80% of India, IMD sees new pattern

#NEW DELHI

Monsoon has reached India and covered almost 80 per cent of the nation, India Meteorological Department's (IMD) senior scientist Naresh Kumar told NDTV on Monday. He said that Monsoon reached quickly owing to a low pressure area occurring in the Bay of Bengal on Sunday.

However, the IMD official stated that the monsoon pattern this year was different. On Sunday, the southwest monsoon covered both Delhi and Mumbai together for the first time since June 21, 1961, the IMD said.

While it hit the national capital two days before schedule, its entry into the financial capital is two weeks late, the Met office said.

"It is the first time since June 21, 1961, that the monsoon arrived in Delhi and Mumbai at the same time," PTI quoted DS Pai, a senior scientist at the IMD, as saying.

Commuters wade through a waterlogged roadin Gurugram

Meanwhile, the Safdarjung Observatory recorded 2.4 mm rainfall, Palam 7.1 mm, Lodhi Road 1.7 mm, Ridge 7.4 mm and Ayanagar recorded 4 mm rainfall between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm on Sunday.

"The usual date for monsoon to reach Mumbai is June 11 and June 27 in Delhi, but reached the two metro cities on the same day. However, this can't directly be linked to climate change as it takes data from 30 to 40 years to determine that," Kumar said.

"Generally, monsoon is activated by a low pressure zone. High speed winds caused by the low pressure zone led to monsoon rapidly reached various parts of the country which saw rainfall," NDTV quoted him as saying. The IMD official also explained that western winds from the Arabian Sea that push monsoon further coincided with the formation of the low pressure zone in the Bay of Bengal when it was over Maharashtra.

This resulted in rainfall in Mumbai and Delhi simultaneously.

-ET Online (With inputs from agencies)

Wrestlers move court for copy of chargesheet

File photo of a sit-in protest by wrestlers demanding arrest of WFI chief, in New Delhi

#NEW DELHI

The complainant wrestlers, on whose complaint Delhi Police had filed a chargesheet against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, on Monday moved Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court seeking a certified copy of the same.

The chargesheet was filed under IPC sections 354, 354D, 345A and 506 (1) over allegations of sexual harassment charges against Brij Bhushan and one other person.

The Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate on Monday noted that the cognizance of the chargesheet has not been taken yet, asking the lawyer to fill the form to apply for a certified copy of the said chargesheet.

Earlier, on the last date, the court had fixed June 27 for consideration on the chargesheet.

In connection with the wrestlers' protest and their allegations of sexual harassment, two FIRs were registered against Brij Bhushan.

One was registered under POCSO Act in Patiala House Court on the basis of one Minor wrestler complaint while the second was filed on the complaint of several wrestlers in Rouse Avenue Court in MP/MLA court.

The Delhi Police filed its final report on both FIRs in respective courts.

In Patiala House Court, Delhi Police filed Cancellation Report citing lack of evidence on the POCSO matter. Delhi Police on June 15, 2023 filed a report recommending the cancellation of the POCSO case against Brij Bhushan.

Delhi Police recommended the cancellation of the POCSO case after the minor wrestler, who had accused the WFI chief of sexual harassment, withdrew her statement. There was no collaborative evidence in the case, Delhi Police said.

"We are filing a chargesheet for the offences under sections 354, 354A , 354D IPC against accused Brijbhushan Sharan Singh and for offences under sections 109/ 354/354A/506 IPC against accused Vinod Tomar before the Rouse Avenue Court," said Suman Nalwa, PRO, Delhi Police, had said earlier.

-ANI

13th Year of Celebrating ASHADHI EKADASHI
An Evening of Abhangs - 'BOLAVA VITTHAL'
।। पंचम निषाद ।।
बोलावा विठ्ठल
Ranjani Gayatri | Jayateerth Mevundi
Sun. 2 July 2023 | 5:30 pm onwards
Please be seated by 5:15 pm (Few Seats Reserved)
At Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Malleswaram, Bengaluru
Tickets : ₹1500, 1000 (Including GST), 500
Tickets are available on bookmyshow
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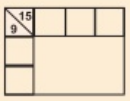
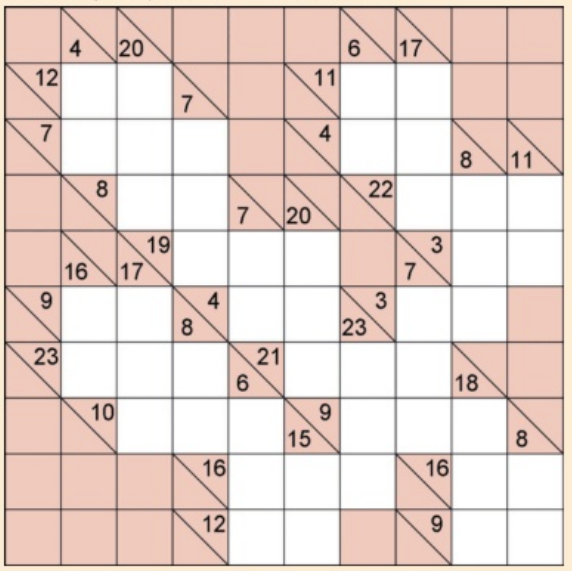
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

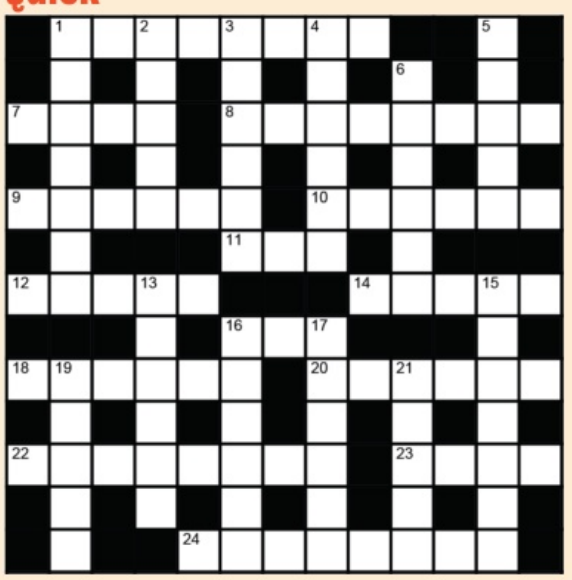


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Respires (8)
7 Venomous snakes (4)
8 Resounded (2-6)
9 Drives or pushes forward (6)
10 Go on board (6)
11 Large cask (3)
12 Rebuffs, repulses or blackballs (5)
14 Capture (5)
16 ___ de deux: dance for two persons? (3)
18 Fourth President of India (1,1,4)
20 Royal seat (6)
22 Famous circumnavigator (8)
23 ___ into: Encounter (4)
24 Conventional (8)

DOWN

1 Groom's helper (4,3)
2 Follow (5)
3 Sudden push (6)
4 Football team (6)
5 Greasy mark (5)
6 B in BARC? (6)
13 Converted water to steam (6)
15 Multiplex on Outer Ring Road (7)
16 Column; post (6)
17 Offensive smell (6)
19 Article of food (5)
21 Like a mad dog (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS G

GFQUVQUK QH HQTRUV GNRVAP, FUE GNRVAP QH GFQUVQUK YQVM VMR KQCV NC HGRRXM.

Linemaro

If I tell you I love you, can I keep you forever?

Mindchow

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together

Joke of the day

Two aerials met on a roof and got married. The reception was brilliant

Loop

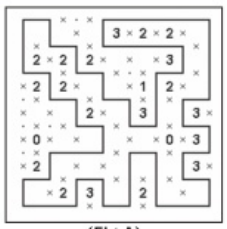
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

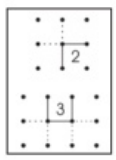
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

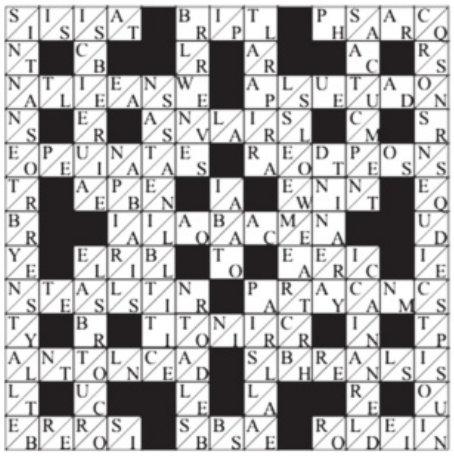


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

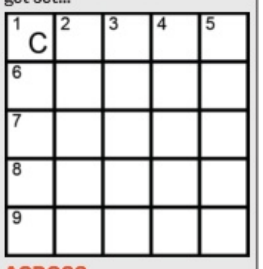
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

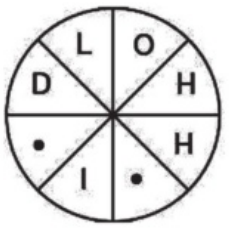
1 Certs; 6 Raita; 7 Stair; 8 Hewer; 9 Slink

DOWN

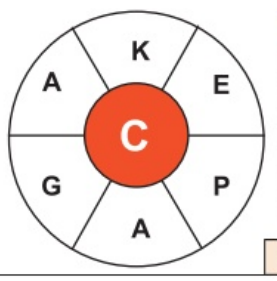
1 Raw LC; 2 Irish; 3 An tee; 4 Skirt; 5 Rates

Mensapuzzle

Fill in the blanks to find two words that are synonyms.



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; 06 Good; 08 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	2				5	4		
		8	3					9
5				4			6	
9				6			8	
		3	2	5	4	7		
	6			8				1
	8			3				5
4					6	8		
		7	9				2	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 6

2 3 7 8

Medium = 27

1 5 7 9

Hard = 10

1 3 8 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

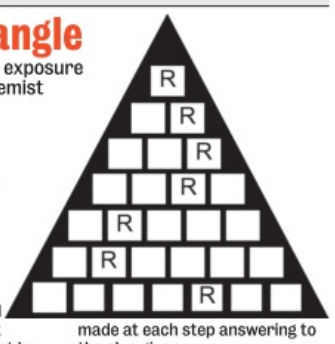
Differences: 1. Pointer is shorter. 2. Glasses are missing. 3. Man has more hair. 4. TV screen is smaller. 5. Plant leaf is different. 6. Picture on wall is reversed.

Riddler

Player, he could hit the dartboard in any location at will. "I'll wager a hundred dollars that, no matter what position you name on the board, I'll be able to hit it." Thibedeaux, tired of Boudreaux's windbaggery, shouted out an answer. Boudreaux stammered for a few moments and at first refused to pay. The other bar patrons, however, made sure he held up his end of the wager. Boudreaux slammed a hundred dollar bill on the counter and stormed out. Where on the dartboard did Thibedeaux suggest?

Alpha triangle

1 A unit of radiation exposure
2 Iridium for the chemist
3 Knight's title
4 Broadcasts
5 Diva's songs
6 A Musketeer
7 Japanese warrior



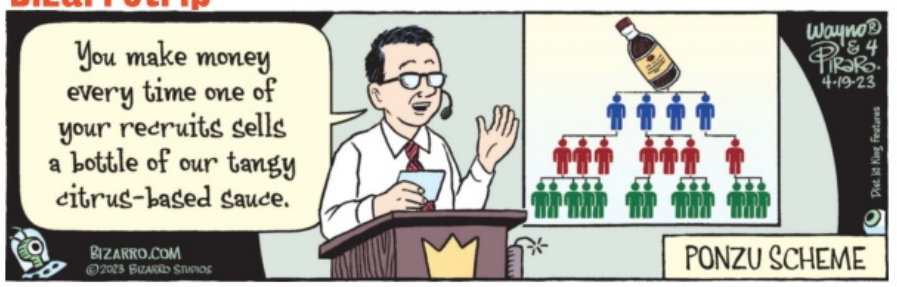
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip


You make money every time one of your recruits sells a bottle of our tangy citrus-based sauce.
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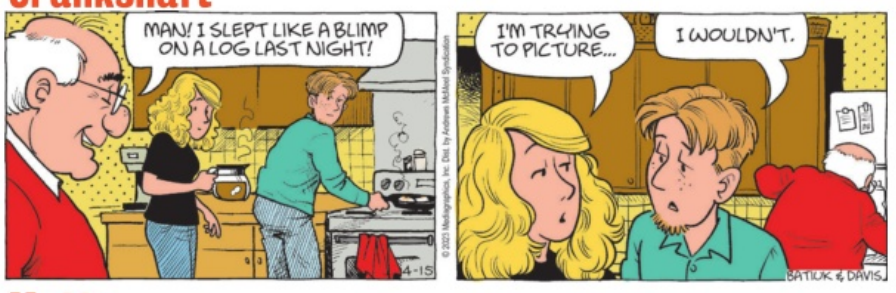
Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

AFTER YOU DROP YOUR VEGETABLES AT HOME, COME UP TO MY PLACE AND MY DAD CAN MAKE US A SNACK!
A HEALTHY SNACK OR A REAL SNACK?
A HEALTHY SNACK IS A REAL SNACK!
AH, OKAY. SO A HEALTHY SNACK.

Crankshaft



Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today the projects which were stopped without a reason, may start automatically. You may be satisfied at work. You may plan for a short work related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your internal strength. Your elders may show you the right path, which may show you the right path to achieve your goals.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may feel dull, you may also face health issues. It is advised to keep your mind cool. Read documents carefully before signature. You may face difficulty to recover your money. You are also advised to avoid going for adventure tours. Students are advised to go for in depth study to get success. You may also be attracted to the occult.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be busy at home. You may buy some artifacts or creative stuff to renovate your house, which may increase your social status. You may also invest in properties and other fixed assets. You are likely to enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may increase emotional relationships. Singles may hear good news in terms of marriage.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may feel happy. Old health issues related to elders may be cured. Money that was stuck may be recovered now, which may boost your financial health. People who are in a job may change their job to seek a promotion. Job seekers may get a job with the help of any friend's reference.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may prefer gaining knowledge; you may understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes you may control your short temperedness, which may help you to perform your task smoothly. There may be some chances for smooth earning, which may give you comfort in the workflow. You are advised to be careful before making new investments in assets.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may feel dull. You may not be able to enjoy the moment. You may be in the hurry to complete the task given to you. You may make silly mistakes. Your working efficiency may slow down, which may affect your day to day work. Your projects are likely to be delayed, it may affect your professional life. Before taking any important decision, you are advised to take advice from your elders.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may be energetic; you may be more focused, which may speed up your current task. Your subordinates may help you to start a new project, which may give you profit in the near future. You may expect some short trips related to your family issues. Job seekers may hear good news in terms of jobs.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may use your creativity in your office or at home, which may enhance your social status. You may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. Love birds are likely to get some support from their family members for marriage. Students may hear good news in terms of academics.

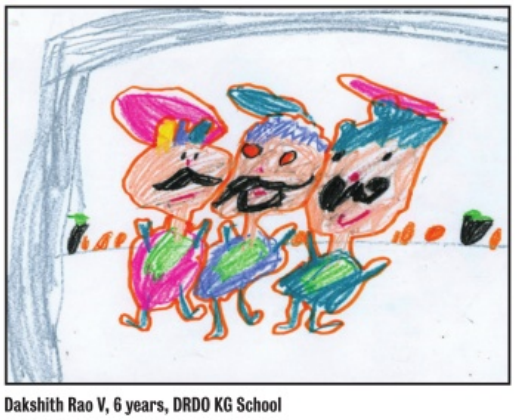
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may be relaxed after a messy situation. Your inner strength may help you to implement some difficult decisions in parental business, which may grow it. You may help needy people around, which may increase your social respect. Students might be clear in choosing their career options.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may feel dull, your health may not be good. You may also have anxiety and restlessness. You are advised to postpone your important investments in the business or real estate. You are advised to avoid rash driving. You should avoid long distance travelling also. You may do some meditation, it will be helpful in sound sleep.

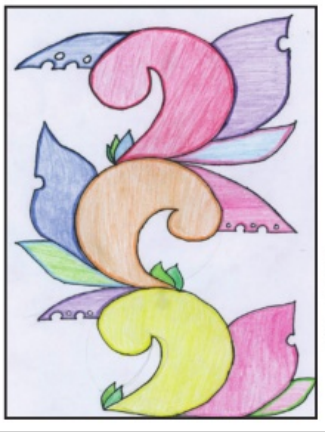
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today's blessing from elders' may make you happy, your investments may give you profits. Loses are converted into profits now. Your savings may boost your bank balance. You may plan to invest for the kid's future. You may also enjoy some delicious food at home. Your problems related to throat, teeth, ear, or nose may be resolved now.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may enjoy your work; you may get some promotion after your hard work. You are likely to help some needy person, your social respect may be increased now. Overworking your mind may make you tired; due to workload, you may not be able to reach some family get together. Your parents' health may recover.

KIDZONE



Dakshith Rao V, 6 years, DRDO KG School



Holika Reddy, 12 years, Dream World School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=10+7-9.2+(9*10)+(20/4)!
=10+7-9.2+(90)+(5)!
=10+7-9.2+90+5!
=10+7-81+90+120
=17-81+90+120
=(-64)+90+120
=26+120
=146

BULL'S EYE
apace, cage, cake, cape, pace, pack, PACKAGE, peck

FAST FIVE

C	R	E	S	T
R	I	A	T	A
A	S	T	I	R
W	H	E	R	E
L	I	N	K	S

STRIKE OUT

I	S	I	T		B	I	L	T		P	A	R	C	
N		B		R		A		C		R				
A	T	E	A	S	E		P	S	E	U	D	O		
T		U		E		C		I		E		O		
A	T	O	N	E	D		S	H	E	N	S	I		
T		B		T	O	N	I	C		N		T		
S	T	A	L	I	N		A	R	Y	A	N	S		
Y		L	I	L		O		A	R	C		E		
R		A	L	A	B	A	M	A		U				
R		A	P	E		I		W	I	N		Q		
O	P	I	A	T	E		R	O	D	E	O	S		
S		R		A	V	A	I	L		M		S		
I	M	P	E	L	S		E	M	B	A	R	K		
	T		U		V		A		A					
A	S	P	S		R	E	C	H	O	E	D			
E		N		H		L		B		M				
B	R	E	A	T	H	E	S		S					

QUICK

D			O	R	T	H	O	D	O	X				
		D				A		C		I		E		
M	A	G	E	L	L	A	N		B	U	M	P		
I		L		L		E		A		E				
V	G	I	R	I		T	H	R	O	N	E			
		O		P	A	S				I				
S	N	U	B	S		C	A	T	C	H				
		A				T	U	N		H				
I	M	P	E	L	S		E	M	B	A	R	K		
	T		U		V		A		A					
A	S	P	S		R	E	C	H	O	E	D			
E		N		H		L		B		M				
	B	R	E	A	T	H	E	S		S				

MENSA PUZZLE
RESTRAIN, WITHHOLD

RIDDLER
The back of the board.

QUOTE UNCODE
Painting is silent poetry, and poetry is painting with the gift of speech.

SUDOKU

7	2	1	6	9	5	4	3	8
6	4	8	3	2	7	1	5	9
5	3	9	8	4	1	2	6	7
9	7	4	1	6	3	5	8	2
8	1	3	2	5	4	7	9	6
2	6	5	7	8	9	3	4	1
1	8	6	4	3	2	9	7	5
4	9	2	5	7	6	8	1	3
3	5	7	9	1	8	6	2	4

ALPHA TRIANGLE
R, It, Sir, Airs, Arias, Aramis, Samurai.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 – 7 + 8 + 3 = 6
Medium
7 x 5 + 1 – 9 = 27
Hard
3 + 8 – 2 + 1 = 10

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 16, Issue No 4 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Double role

It was an emotional and proud moment for Sudeep's nephew Sanchith Sanjeev when he was led to the stage by Crazy Star Ravichandran and Dr Shivarajkumar on Sunday evening at Sheraton Hotel. The occasion was to launch the title of the movie – Jimmy – in which Sanchith is playing the lead and handling the megaphone.

Sanchith's parents and grandparents became emotional while wishing him the best. Jimmy is being bankrolled by Sudeep's better half Priya, KP Srikanth and Naveen Manohar under Lahari Films, Venus Entertainment, and Supriyanvi Picture Studio. Priya debuts as a producer in Sandalwood with this film.

Ravichandran advised Sanchith to focus on making good movies rather than thinking about the success of the movies at the box office. Welcoming Sanchith to join the S Club (Shivarajkumar and Sudeep Club), Dr Shivarajkumar said he liked Sanchith's style of alighting from a car and walking up to the villain and sitting on a chair. Sudeep advised Sanchith to be friendly with actors and media and never forget those who worked for the development of Kannada film industry.

Appreciating Sanchith's efforts as associate director, Priya said, "Thanks to Sanchith for giving me this opportunity."

Cricket mania

KRG Studios is all set to commence the shooting for its fourth movie. If all goes as per the plan, the movie Kirike't 11 would go on floors during the World Cup 2023. It is said the movie is a comedy about a bunch of people who are down on their luck, redeeming themselves through the one thing that everyone in India watches and plays: Cricket.

Prior to this, KRG Studios has already bankrolled three movies in six years. The first movie was Rathnan Prapancha, second was action movie Gurudev Hoysala. The shooting of its third movie Uttarakaanda is in progress.

Naveen Shankar and Danish Sait will be acting in Kirik'et 11. Manoj Kumar Kalavanan has written the script while Suman Kumar is the director. Suman Kumar is known for writing scripts for TV series The Family Man, Farzi, Game Over, and Guns and Gulaabs.

Vasuki Vaibhav, who scored music for Badava Rascal and Jimmy, is the music director for the movie Kirik'et 11. This movie would be bankrolled by Karthik, Vijay Subramaniam and Yogi G Raj.

POSTER BOY

Hrithik reveals first look of his upcoming film; but where's DP?

Hrithik Roshan took to his Instagram handle to give his fans a sneak peek into the first look of his upcoming film, 'Fighter'. Deepika Padukone iS missing from the first look.

In the still from the movie, Hrithik appeared to be in an airforce suit while he stood next to what seemed to be fighter jets. He captioned the post, '#Fighter #25Jan2024 #7MonthsToFighter

As soon as he shared the photo, comments started pouring in from all sides.

While one user wrote, 'Top Gun copy... typical Bollywood behavior', another one added, 'Don't copy Top Gun'. A user also commented, 'Goosebumps Loading in 7 Months'.

This will be the first time that Hrithik and Deepika are sharing the screen. Besides this, it also promises to be 'India's first-ever aerial action franchise'.

The film will hit theatres on January 25, 2024.

– ETimes

How Malaika wished her 'sunshine'

On actor Arjun Kapoor's 38th birthday, his girlfriend Malaika Arora dropped a loved-up post for him on Instagram. "Happy birthday my sunshine ,my thinker ,my goofy,my shopaholic ,my handsome .... @arjunkapoor," she wrote, adding cake, red heart and hugging face emojis. Malaika also posted a string of images of Arjun.

One of the images shows Arjun making goofy expressions. Arjun hosted a birthday bash for his close friends and family members at his residence last night.

Several inside pictures and videos from the bash have surfaced online. One of the clips shows Malaika dancing her heart out on her hit song 'Chaiyya Chaiyya' from Shah Rukh Khan-starrer 'Dil Se'.

Malaika and Arjun have been dating for quite some time now. However, it was not until a couple of years ago that both decided to make their relationship public. Even after all the trolling because of the 12-year age gap between them, Malaika and Arjun never fail to shower love on each other on social media.

Arjun also received a heartfelt birthday wish from sister Anshula."Happy birthday to my whole world. Love you to infinity. My wish for you is that may happiness always surround you (even if that means countless Farfetch orders), and may you always feel a forcefield of love around you..." — ANI

Ananya's Monday dose of cuteness

Actor Ananya Panday started her Monday on a nostalgic yet cute note.

Taking a stroll down memory lane, she dropped a video from her childhood days.

In the clip, Ananya is seen dressed up as a pilot. Her cute little talk with her father and actor Chunky Panday is the highlight of the video. Sharing the clip on Instagram, "How badly do you need a holiday?"

The post has garnered loads of likes from netizens. Actor Ayushmann Khurrana commented, "Too cute". "Pudding," fashion stylist Tanya Ghavri commented.

On the work front, Ananya will be next seen in director Vikramaditya Motwane's untitled cybercrime-thriller film. Ecstatic about the project, Ananya said, "When Vikramaditya Motwane approached me with this story, I just knew I had to be part of it. As a filmmaker, he has been on my wish list for as long as I can remember and I feel fortunate to be working with him" —ANI